

# Flambeau River Canoeing

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The Flambeau River North Fork is a fitting destination for paddlers of all skill levels. The South Fork has a larger number of more difficult rapids and is better suited for more experienced paddlers.

Most of the North Fork and the lower portion of the South Fork are surrounded by the Flambeau River State Forest. First established in 1930, the State Forest has grown to more than 90,000 acres creating mile after mile of remote and wild, scenic beauty. This is one of the largest, most undeveloped public-use areas in Wisconsin.

## **Hwy. W Bridge - Camp 41 Landing - Section NF3**

**Beginner:** This is a peaceful and scenic stretch of river with several pitches of class 1 and 2 rapids. The rapids tend to be short, and shouldn't pose much of a problem for less-experienced paddlers. A great segment to develop confidence and paddling skills.

The river has a remote feel as you paddle into the interior of the Flambeau River State Forest. A few cottages here and there are the only signs of development, but they do little to mar the experience. A dense northern forest of mixed pines, softwoods and hardwoods surrounds the flowing river. There are numerous grassy islands and wildlife is abundant.

## **Camp 41 - Beaver Dam Landing - Section FN 4**

**Beginner / Intermediate:** This is a wonderfully scenic trip that features a large number of rapids and boulder gardens which are suitable for whitewater-experienced, novice and intermediate level canoeists and kayakers. Three pitches occur in the first three miles, two of which rate class 2, followed by intermittent shallow riffles.

The South Fork joins the North Fork adding additional flow. The challenging first pitch of Cedar Rapids occurs downstream of the confluence. This solid class 2-3 features a series of tricky ledges around a small island.

More rapids occur as you continue downstream including Beaver Dam Rapids, a strong class 2 which will rate class 3 in higher flows. Beaver Dam Rapids feature a river-wide ledge with a three to four foot drop.

## **Hwy W Bridge - Skinners Creek - Section SF3**

**Intermediate/Advanced:** The most challenging whitewater of both forks of the Flambeau is found in this segment. The rapids begin in earnest within a half-mile from the put-in where a

short set of boulder gardens lead into a right bend and the river constricts between scenic rock formations and rumbles into Slough Gundy Rapids. This frothy class 2-3 can develop pushy waves in high water!

A short stretch of boulders follow, then the river forks around a small wooded island where the main flow goes down the right fork and roars into Little Falls. The falls rate a strong class 3 in medium flows and grows into a class 4 in high water.

Downstream from the falls, the river runs through a long series of class 2 rapids and boulder gardens named Scratch Rapids and Gunners Rapids.

### **Canoe and Kayak Trips/Instruction**

Wisconsin is well known for outstanding canoeing and kayaking, amazing river trips and memorable adventures. We offer one and two day canoe and Kayak River trips on the Wolf River, Flambeau River, Brule River and the Wisconsin River. While some outfitters focus on a specific river or a segment of a river, we are the only company that works the entire state, seeking out the best paddling opportunities for our clients.



With certified American Canoe Association instructors for the beginning, intermediate or advanced paddlers, we offer high quality custom canoe and kayak lessons.

Learn to canoe and kayak from instructors with years of training and experience. The rivers we have selected provide some of the best opportunities for personal growth and skill development.

### **Remote Paddling Expeditions**

Our pride and joy, we love to explore! For the adventure seekers we specialize in developing memorable guided canoe adventures into some of the most remote reaches of Canada. This year we are guiding expeditions to the Fond du Lac River in Northern Saskatchewan, Missinaibi River in Central Ontario and to the Seal River in the Sub-Arctic region of Manitoba.



### **Bois Brule – Wisconsin**

The Bois Brule River is arguably among the best canoeing and kayaking rivers in the Midwest. The diverse character of the river features appealing trips for paddlers of all skill levels. From it's upper reaches, the river offers a calm, serene beauty. The Brule begins to show some

character as it roars over a series of challenging ledges and rapids. Gradually the river slows and widens before spilling into Lake Superior.

### **Bois Brule: Hwy 13 Bridge - Lake Superior - Section 4**

Padlers will find a mostly flatwater run with one class 1 rapid and several long stretches of riffles. You will also see some of the most beautiful river scenery in Wisconsin, especially in the last several miles where the river meanders through tall, steeply sloped hills covered in aspen, birch, maple, pine, spruce and balsam fir. Lake Superior provides a great finale.



As with previous sections, this stretch of river is popular amongst anglers, particularly during spring. Wildlife continues to be abundant.

The meandering Bois Brule to Lake Superior is a great day trip for canoe and kayakers wanting to get their “river legs” and experience a bit of class 1 whitewater rush. It’s an awesome sensation rounding the final section of the Brule and entering the vast expanse of Lake Superior. As the Brule winds its way to Lake Superior it offers a variety of scenery and fantastic learning opportunities.

### **Bois Brule: Pine Tree landing - Hwy 13 Bridge - Section 3**

This segment of the Bois Brule features the most difficult whitewater of the river and should provide intermediate canoeists and kayakers with plenty of exciting challenges. Paddlers will find rapids and more rapids for seemingly non-stop fun. The highlights are class 2 Lenroot Ledges and class 2-3 Mays Ledges. Both are fairly long over a series of drops.



You can’t beat the excitement of these continuous rapids. The Bois Brule is a fast-flowing, shallow river with lots of class I & II rapids, and a good practice run for bigger and more technical waters.

This river simply has it all – great beauty, lots of fun rapids and long history. Everybody loves the Brule; when someone says Brule, I picture the flat slides of Lenroot Ledges the three pitches of May Ledges and winding continuous class I & II rapids.

**For more information please visit**  
**<http://www.riversportadventures.com>**